

[10 August, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Atomic Power Station (MAPS) are adequate as per original design, coolant channel replacement and up-gradation works are contemplated to the extent applicable in line with the current international safety standards to enhance the life of the reactor by another 20 years.

(e) Procurement actions for long delivery items have commenced during the current year.

Consumer courts

2059. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of consumer courts functioning in the country, State-wise;
- (b) list of consumer courts so far appointed in Assam, District-wise alongwith number of cases handled by each court;
- (c) the target set for appointments of such courts in future;
- (d) whether adequate publicity is provided to common citizens about their privileges through these courts;
- (e) if so, methodology so far used for public awareness and proposed for future;
- (f) whether Government will consider extensive publicity through all local newspaper and electronic media at regular interval; and
- (g) if so, in what manner?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN):

(a) One National Commission, 32 State Commissions and 555 District Forums have been set up in the country. The State-wise position of State Commissions and District Forums set up is given in Statement (*See blow*)

(b) and (c) 23 Districts Forums are functioning in Assam. The details are given in Statement-II. (*See below*). The Department does

not maintain details of cases filed, disposed and pending District-wise in the States. The details of all 23 district forums in Assam, since inception till 31.3.2000, as reported by the National Commission, are as under:

Cases filed	:	6850
Cases disposed of	:	5731
Cases pending	:	1119

(d) to (g) Consumer movement is an ongoing process and continuous efforts are undertaken by the Central and State Governments, voluntary organizations and others to spread the consumer movement in the country. Financial assistance is provided to eligible agencies from the Consumer Welfare Fund for undertaking suitable projects to strengthen the consumer movement. To make the people aware of their rights and responsibilities as consumers. Government has been taking up publicity measures through audio, video and print media including outdoor publicity programmes throughout the country.

Statement-I

Name of State	No. of State Commission	No. of District Forum
Andhra Pradesh		25
Arunachal Pradesh		13
Assam		23
Bihar		55
Goa		2
Gujarat		19
Haryana		19
Himachal Pradesh		12
Jammu & Kashmir		2
Karnataka		21
Kerala		14
Madhya Pradesh		61
Maharashtra		34
Manipur		8
Meghalaya		7

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Name of State	No. of State Commission	No. of District Forum
Mizoram		3
Nagaland		8
Orissa		31
Punjab		17
Rajasthan		33
Sikkim		4
Tamilnadu		24
Tripura Uttar Pradesh		3
West Bengal A & N Island		80
Chandigarh D & N Haveli		19
Daman & Diu		2
Delhi		2
Lakshadweep		1
Pondicherry		1
Total	32	555

Statement-II

S.No.	Name of District and District Forums in Assam
1.	Barpeta
2.	Bongaigaon
3.	Cachar
4.	Darrang
5.	Dhemaji
6.	Dhubri
7.	Dibrugarh
8.	Goalpara
9.	Golaghat
10.	Hailakand
11.	Jorhat

S.No.	Name of District and District Foru
12.	Kamrup
13.	Karbi-Anglong
14.	Karimganj
15.	Kokrajhar
16.	Morigaon
17.	Nagaon
18.	Nalbari
19.	North Cachar Hills
20.	North Lakhimpur
21.	Sibsagar
22.	Sonitpur
23.	Tinsukia

Recommendations of Expenditure Reforms Commission

2060 SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH:

SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Expenditure Reforms Commission has submitted its various recommendations regarding the food policy to Government;

(b) if so, the details of these recommendations;

(c) whether any action plan has been formulated by Government to implement these recommendations; and

(d) if so, the outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SRIRAM CHAUHAN):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to contain the burgeoning food subsidy bill within accepted levels, Expenditure Reforms Commission (E.R.C.) in its report on 'Food Subsidy*' has made a number of recommendations besides the recommendations

@Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.